THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ayurvedic Medicine was described as ancient discipline based upon the principle of mind-spirit-body interaction and employing natural herbs, usually, mixtures, in treatment. The system favours a philosophical approach and is indifferent to the scientific principles of conventional medicines.

(d) The Government provided literature and scientific evidences to the House of Lords Select Committee to substantiate that the Ayurvedic system is a scientific system. A delegation of scientists and researchers was deputed in March, 2001 which made presentation before the Sub-Committee in the U.K. of the trials conducted on scientific parameters for Ayurvedic drugs for their efficacy and safety. However, Lords debate reached the following conclusion:—

> "Some of the herbal remedies of Ayurveda can be included in Group 1, namely, they can be brought under the umbrella of herbal medicine."

Trade of Human Embryos

374. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade in human embryos and other precious human parts in on the rise;

(b) if so, the number of cases registered during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 confers authority on the State Governments to appoint by a notification one or more officers as appropriate Authorities for the purposes of the Act who exercise powers to grant registration to hospital for removal, storage or transplantation of any human organ, to suspend or cancel such registration, to enforce such standards as may be prescribed, to investigate any complaint of breach of any provision of the said act or any rules made

thereunder and inspect hospitals periodically. Provisions exist under sections 18 to 21 of the said Act to discourage any such activities.

Human embryo is not a human organ as per the definition given in the said Act.

Losses of public enterprises

375. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total projected loss of public enterprises in the year 2002-2003;

(b) why were these losses suffered by our Public Enterprises;

(c) whether it is because of the out-dated technology or lack of exit policy in the country; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to make public enterprises to generate wealth for the nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Information in respect of projected loss by central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) is not being maintained centrally. However, as per Performance Budget 2001-2002 of the Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, the period till which the information is available, the total projected loss by 28 loss making CPSEs under the Department of Heavy Industry (DHI) is Rs. 533.11 crores as against a projected net profit of Rs. 679.96 crores earned by 12 profit making CPSEs under DHI. In case of remaining 8 CPSEs, no projections have been made. Thus, 48 CPSEs under DHI are likely to earn an aggregate net profit of Rs. 146.85 crores during the year 2001.2002 after adjustment of the above projected loss.

(b) and (c) The reasons for losses are enterprise specific. Some of these reasons include inherited sickness in case of taken over units from the private sector, obsolete plant and machinery, outdated technology, low capacity utilisation, excess manpower, financial recource crunch, high input costs, heavy interest burden, weak marketing strategies, lack of orders etc.

(d) The performance improvement is a continuous process. Enterprise specific steps are taken by the Administrative Ministries / Departments / Management of the PSUs from time to time. Some of the steps taken include